



Rough Fire Morning Update

Friday, September 18, 2015

Fire Information Line: 559-549-4837

Date Started: July 31, 2015 **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 141,201 acres **Containment:** 68%
Structures Destroyed: 4 **Firefighter injuries to date:** 7 **Total Personnel:** 1,411
Fire Resources: 22 crews, 90 engines, 13 helicopters, 12 bulldozers, 17 water tenders

Breakdown of Acreage by Ownership:

Kings Canyon National Park: 8,536 acres

State Lands: 6 acres

Sequoia National Forest: 80,170 acres

Private Lands: 999 acres

Sierra National Forest: 51,490 acres

Fire Summary: Containment continues to grow on the Rough Fire due to moderated fire behavior. Unseasonably warmer and dryer conditions will be returning through the weekend resulting in a possible increase in fire activity. Interior pockets of unburned fuel will continue to burn. Residents may see an increased amount of smoke over the fire area in the upcoming days, especially along the western perimeter where strategic firing operations are planned for this weekend. As road and area closures are lifted, the public is reminded to be extra cautious of fire vehicles on roadways.

SOUTH ZONE Zone specific Fire Information is available at (559) 549-4837

Conditions remain favorable for strategic firing operations to tie in the remaining portion of the line in the western portion of the South Zone along the north end of McKenzie Ridge to the Kings River. Firefighters will spend today preparing for those strategic firing operations. Fire crews will also focus on aggressive mop up to further secure containment lines currently in place and will continue patrols along the Highway 180 corridor and the southeast portion of the fire. Suppression repair efforts are ongoing. Suppression repair refers to actions taken to restore areas affected by fire fighting efforts. The potential for new fire starts will increase with unseasonably hot and dry weather, firefighters are prepared to respond as needed.

NORTH ZONE Zone specific Fire Information is available at (559) 841-6248

Pacific high pressure will remain over the region today and into the weekend. A warming and drying trend will accompany this pattern change which means fire activity could possibly increase today with the higher temperatures and lower relative humidity. In the Balch Camp area, crews will watch for the effects of down canyon winds early this morning and reverse by late morning. Crews are also coordinating with Pacific Gas and Electric on structure protection needs in Balch Camp. With sensitivities to species and habitat, crews are being extra cautious with suppression and repair in the Kirch Flat and Rogers Crossing area.

UPDATED CLOSURES: The **Sequoia National Forest**, in pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety, implemented a closure within the Rough Fire area on the Hume Lake Ranger District. The purpose of the closure is to provide safety for the public and for the firefighters who are engaged in fire suppression activities. The closure will remain in effect until the fire is declared out.

The latest Rough Fire Information can be found at: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4456/>

Additional Information:

Sierra National Forest Closure Orders: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra/>

Sequoia National Forest Closure Orders: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia/>

Sequoia National Park and Kings Canyon National Park: <http://www.nps.gov/seki/index.htm>

Evacuation Notices: <http://www.fresnosheriff.org/>